

**IOWAccess Project 5 Team Meeting
September 24, 1998
3-4:30 p.m. USDA ICN Room
Federal Building, 8th Floor, Des Moines**

Remote ICN Sites

Clarinda Community College, Clarinda
Osceola Community College
Spencer High School, Spencer
Department of Human Services, Waterloo

Members Present

Ron Amosson, Chair, DOM
Mike Albers, DOM
Mary Jo Detrick, Clarke Community Schools
Mike Ford, DOM
Phil Hurst, Clay County
Helen Steffen, Black Hawk County

Staff

Marybeth Foster, SPPG
Larry Kelley, Solu Tech
Lowell Sneller, ITS

Call to Order

Chair Ron Amosson called the meeting to order.

Approval of the July 20 Minutes

Minutes were accepted as presented.

Update on Valuation Component -- Larry Kelley

Kelley demonstrated the valuation component. This component is available through Windows 95. Hurst asked if it was possible to have the rollback automatically included in the file. Albers noted the system will automatically note if the numbers are accurate. Hurst asked about whether other reports could be included, however, those reports are under the jurisdiction of the Department of Revenue and Finance. Hurst asked if it was possible for the Department of Revenue and Finance to do something similar. Albers noted the system is of great benefit to local jurisdictions.

Hurst asked about moving data from the AS400 to a PC. Kelley suggested if the AS400 wasn't connected to a PC, it could be loaded on a disk and then loaded to a PC. If the AS400 is connected, it can be transferred as a simple text file. Albers noted there would be other error check information included in the software.

Amosson noted Albers and Kelley have done a great deal of work and commended them for their efforts.

Web page demonstration and information -- Lowell Sneller

Sneller demonstrated the current web page. The web site is still in development, and this is the first phase. The page is part of the IOWAccess home page. The address is www.iowaccess.org. Sneller noted the design elements of the page. The page is subdivided between city, school, county, valuation and reports. There is also a listing of hot links. There are elements to allow users to search the page and contact via email. These connections are not yet finished. Tax reports are available under the report button. Amosson noted these reports are the most requested for information. They are static reports.

Information can be built into a query of certain counties and certain information desired. In this way, comparisons can be made. The page is not available to the public yet as information needs to be added. Hurst offered to test the page before it's released to the public. Sneller also demonstrated the school district pages. The web pages can be converted to a text file and saved directly to a PC. Some of the reports are Excel spreadsheets and others are Word documents.

Kelley noted the page will be enhanced so users can find out what tax district they're in. The page will offer a help file. Steffen noted the ability to check their home valuation and taxes at home would be very beneficial to citizens.

Gregory asked about when schools might be sending information electronically. It was offered to schools this past fall. Response was limited. Amosson noted this will be available this fall so schools can submit their budgets electronically. Detrick noted the system worked well. Gregory asked if the project will be promoted to the IASB or other organizations. There has been discussion of ways to promote electronic filing.

Other Old Business

Final report has been drafted -- Amosson asked for feedback from the team about any evaluation comments that can be included in the final report.

The Steering Committee allocated an additional \$100,000 to Project 5 for the valuation component and annual financial reports. Additional funds are needed and a request will be made to the Steering Committee meeting September 25.

Notice of November IOWAccess Kickoff Event

An IOWAccess kickoff event has been scheduled for November 12, 1998, from 4-7 p.m. A site has not yet been determined. All Project 5 team members are invited and encouraged to attend.

Final Meeting

The team has wrapped up its work in regard to Project 5. No other team meetings appear necessary at this point.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.